

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Rec'd PCT/PTO 29 APR 2005

International application No
PCT/GB 03/04521A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61C8/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category ^a	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 290 499 B1 (LAZZARA RICHARD J ET AL) 18 September 2001 (2001-09-18) cited in the application column 2, line 24-27 column 4, line 9-14 column 5, line 43-60 figures 6,7,12-14	1-3, 21-26, 34,35
A	---	13-17
X	US 6 283 753 B1 (WILLOUGHBY ANDREW J M) 4 September 2001 (2001-09-04) column 42, line 43-65; figures 27A,27B	37,38,51
A	---	4-11
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 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

27 January 2004

Date of mailing of the International search report

03/02/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.
PCT/GB 03/04521

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 947 733 A (GRANDE VINCENZO ET AL) 7 September 1999 (1999-09-07) column 7, line 48-58 column 8, line 57 -column 9, line 27 figures 2E, 4A-4E	43-46, 52
A	-----	18-20, 27, 36

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internal Application No.
PCT/GB 03/04521

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. Claims Nos.: 53 because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-12, 21-26 28, 33, 34, 35, 37-40, 47, 49, 50, 51

Impression coping system with extension means

2. Claims: 1-3, 13-20, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 34, 35, 36, 41-46, 48, 50, 52

Impression coping system with spacer

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 53

Rule 6.2 (a) PCT

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/GB 03/04521

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6290499	B1	18-09-2001	US	5938443 A	17-08-1999
			US	5685715 A	11-11-1997
			US	5899695 A	04-05-1999
			US	6120293 A	19-09-2000
			US	5899697 A	04-05-1999
US 6283753	B1	04-09-2001	US	6126445 A	03-10-2000
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			US	5527182 A	18-06-1996
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			AU	7123896 A	07-05-1997
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			CA	2232822 A1	24-04-1997
			WO	9714371 A1	24-04-1997
			DE	59600962 D1	21-01-1999
			EP	0801544 A1	22-10-1997
			JP	11506688 T	15-06-1999